

1962

The motion was agreed to, and the Senate proceeded to the consideration of executive business.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting several nominations, which were referred to the Committee on the District of Columbia.

(For nominations this day received, see the end of Senate proceedings.)

NATIONAL MEDIATION BOARD

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Francis A. O'Neill, Jr., to be a member of the National Mediation Board.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the nomination is confirmed.

U.S. ARMY

The legislative clerk proceeded to read sundry nominations in the U.S. Army.

Mr. MANSFIELD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that these nominations be considered en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the nominations will be considered en bloc; and, without objection, they are confirmed.

There will be no reports of committees. The President will state the nominations on the Executive Calendar.

U.S. AIR FORCE

The legislative clerk proceeded to read sundry nominations in the U.S. Air Force.

Mr. MANSFIELD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that these nominations be considered en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the nominations will be considered en bloc; and, without objection, they are confirmed.

U.S. NAVY

The legislative clerk proceeded to read sundry nominations in the U.S. Navy.

Mr. MANSFIELD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that these nominations be considered en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the nominations will be considered en bloc; and, without objection, they are confirmed.

U.S. MARINE CORPS

The legislative clerk proceeded to read sundry nominations in the U.S. Marine Corps.

Mr. MANSFIELD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that these nominations be considered en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the nominations will be considered en bloc; and, without objection, they are confirmed.

ROUTINE NOMINATIONS ON THE SECRETARY'S DESK

THE ARMY

The legislative clerk proceeded to read sundry routine nominations in the Army.

Mr. MANSFIELD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that these nominations be considered en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the nominations will be considered en bloc; and, without objection, they are confirmed.

Mr. MANSFIELD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the President be immediately notified of the confirmation of all these nominations.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the President will be notified forthwith.

DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

The Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of John A. McCone, of California, to be Director of Central Intelligence.

Mr. MANSFIELD. Mr. President, it is my understanding that the Senate is now in executive session, and that the pending business is the nomination of John McCone, of California, to be the Director of the Central Intelligence Agency.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator is correct.

Mr. CLARK. Mr. President, when the nomination of Admiral Strauss to be Secretary of Commerce was before the Senate for confirmation in 1959, I prepared a memorandum for my constituents, in which I stated my reasons for opposing the nomination. In that memorandum I outlined five characteristics which I believe any nominee for high public office should have if the Senate is to confirm his nomination for that office. Those characteristics are, first, integrity; second, stability; third, good judgment; fourth, adequate experience; and, fifth, associations, which of necessity would involve an inquiry as to whether any conflict of interest under the statute was involved.

I should like to discuss the pending nomination in the light of those standards. First, however, let me say that the nomination of Mr. McCone to be Director of Central Intelligence raises no issue between liberals and conservatives. It has nothing whatever to do with parlor pinks or members of the John Birch Society.

Those of us who support the President in practically all of his policies, as I do, and who with some regret differ with him on occasion, must nonetheless assure ourselves, in my view, that every nominee whom he recommends to us does have those characteristics of which I speak. I hope that everyone who calls himself a liberal and everyone who calls himself a conservative will measure up to the same standard with respect to these five characteristics, because in my opinion they have nothing whatever to do with one's political opinions.

I should like to discuss each of the five characteristics in turn. First, I have no question as to the integrity of the nominee. He is a man who has worked his way to the top of the business community, with not only consummate ability but also without any doubt of any kind being thrown on his honesty and integrity.

Second, I raise no question as to the nominee's stability. He has conducted himself under heavy pressure in an admirable manner during the course of both his private and public service.

I do have some question as to the nominee's experience for this job, and that point I shall discuss in a moment.

I have no question as to the nominee's business judgment. Clearly it is good, for he has made a fortune. I have no question as to his judgment when he served, I believe, under the Secretary of the Air Force or when he served as Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission.

I do have some question as to his good judgment in terms of this particular office to which the President has nominated him. However, I would have to admit that my views in this regard must of necessity be speculative, because we cannot tell until after the event just how the strongly held views of a nominee on certain subjects might well affect his intelligence judgment—not his intelligence, but his judgment in the field of intelligence—and how they might or might not affect the public interest.

I believe that in the area of his associations, namely, the conflict-of-interest statute and its interpretation, there is very serious legal question as to whether it is not necessary for him to dispose of his stock in the Standard Oil Co. of California or, in the alternative, whether in his own interest it would not be wise to do so.

I shall return to that matter a little later in my speech.

First, I wish to discuss the subject of experience. The nominee himself has testified that he had had no experience for this job.

Perhaps this is not particularly important. I certainly had no prior experience before I became city comptroller of Philadelphia, before I became mayor of the city of Philadelphia, or before I became U.S. Senator. I am perhaps arrogant and conceited enough to think that despite that lack of experience I was able adequately to fulfill my duties.

Yet the position which the nominee is to fill upon the nomination of the President is not an elected public office but an appointed one. I believe a very real question arises as to whether it is sound practice to nominate for a position of this sort a man who heretofore has been without experience in the intelligence field.

Certainly this is the first time in the history of the Central Intelligence Agency that this has been done.

Mr. SYMINGTON. Mr. President, will the Senator from Pennsylvania yield?